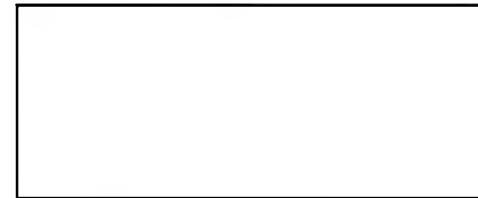


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State Department review completed

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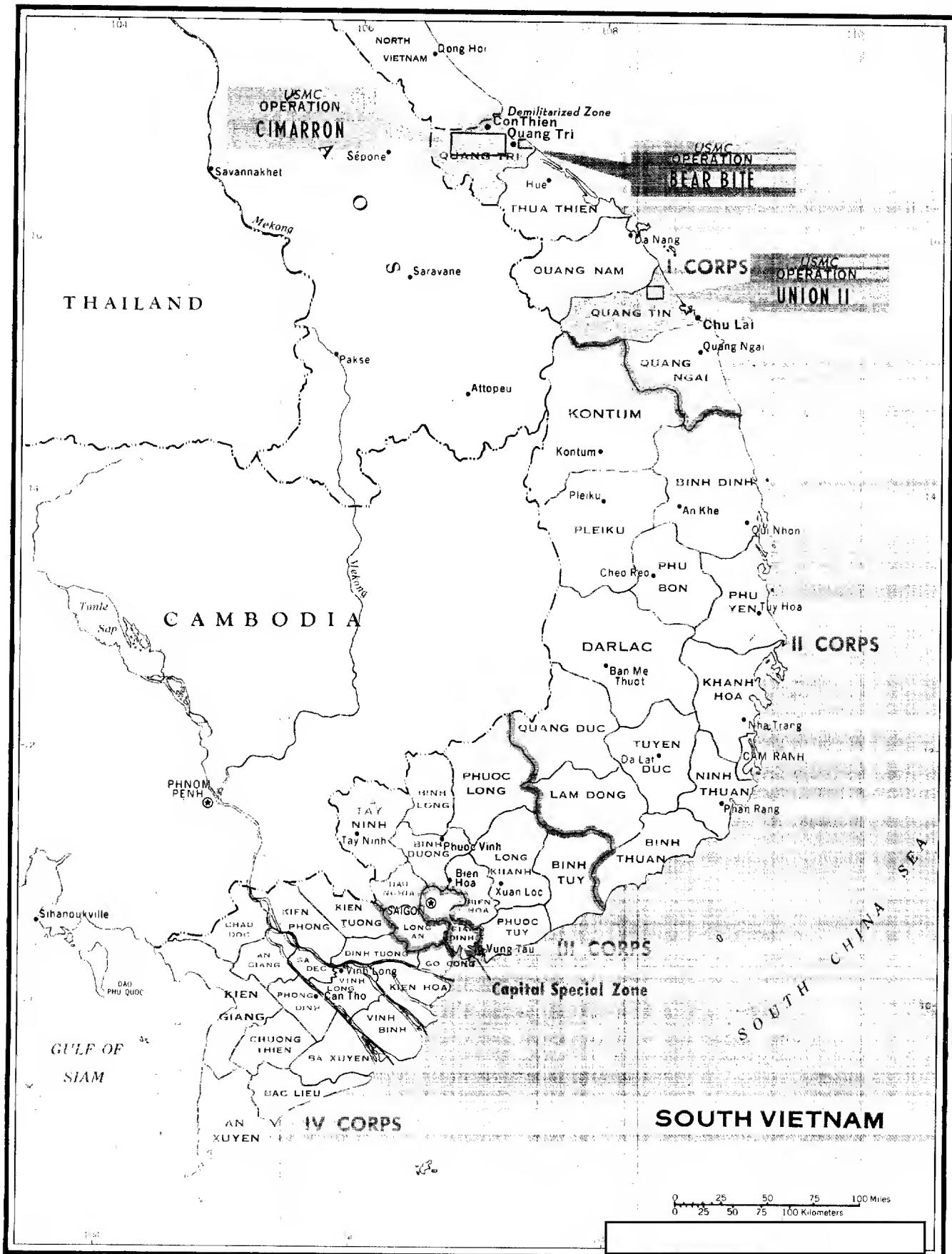
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**\*Vietnam: (Information as of 4:30 AM EDT)**

**The Military Situation in South Vietnam:** Quang Tri Province in northernmost South Vietnam continues to be the focus of significant military activity.

US forces participating in Operation CIMARRON near the Marine outpost at Con Thien have reported sporadic contact with enemy forces in well prepared defensive positions southwest of Con Thien. American casualties in this two-day old operation stand at 15 killed and 117 wounded. Communist casualties thus far are eight killed, but this total should rise when body counts are completed.

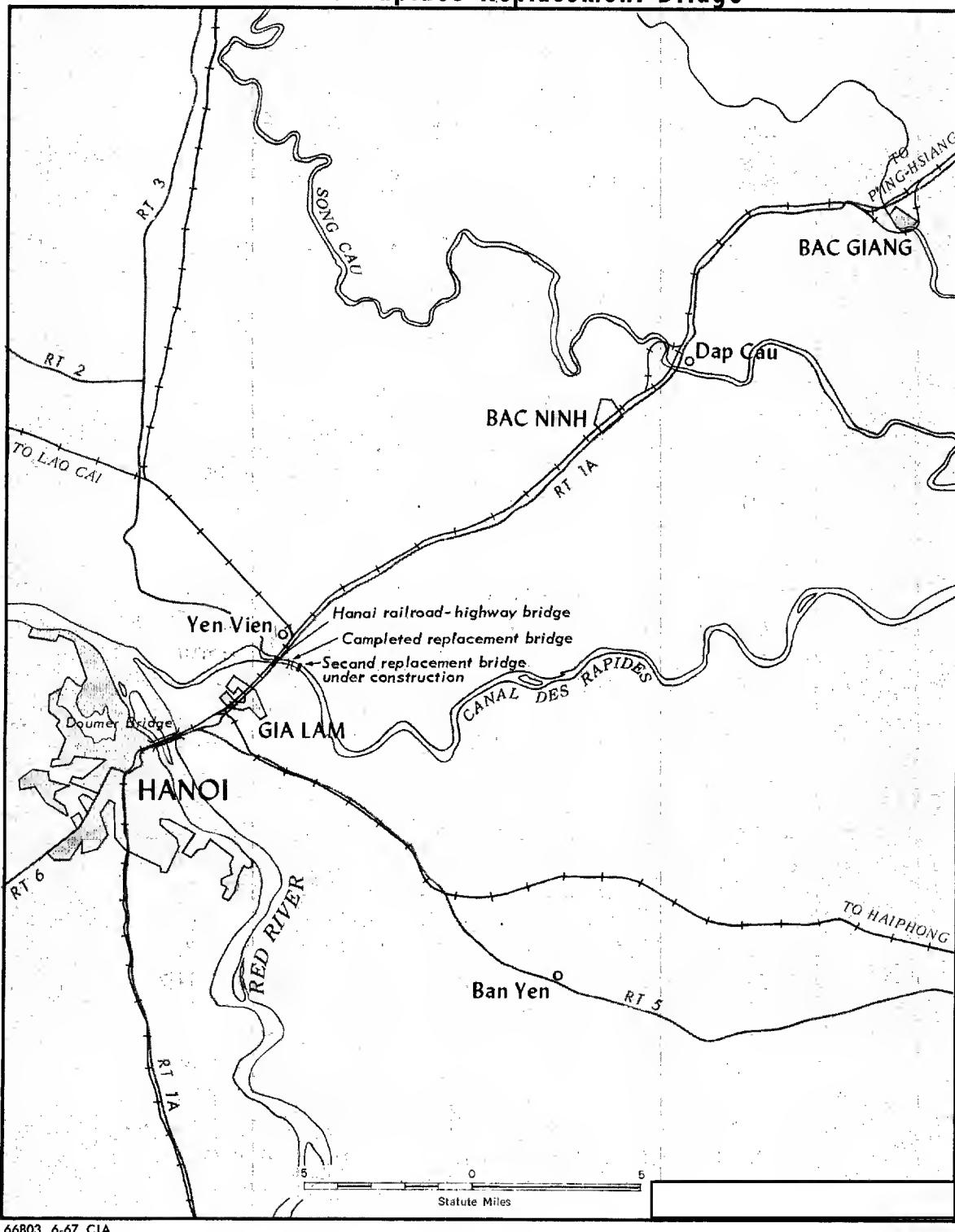
Elsewhere in the province, US Marines on 2 June launched Operation BEAR BITE in the coastal lowlands east of Quang Tri City. No contact has yet been reported.

To the north of Quang Tri City, a South Vietnamese airborne battalion engaged an estimated battalion-sized North Vietnamese force on 2 June. The enemy force withdrew following heavy allied air and artillery strikes, leaving 150 dead and 30 weapons behind. Friendly casualties were reported as one killed and 40 wounded.

In Quang Tin Province, two US Marine companies in Operation UNION II made heavy contact on 2 June with an enemy force some 33 miles northwest of Chu Lai. Preliminary casualty reports indicate that 452 enemy soldiers have been killed while the Marines sustained 88 killed and 220 wounded. Action was continuing in this engagement at last report. (Map)

**North Vietnamese Military Developments:** Aerial photography of 20 May discloses that the North Vietnamese, probably aided by Chinese logistical troops, have completed a replacement bridge over the Canal des

## HANOI AREA - Canal des Rapides Replacement Bridge



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Rapides north of Hanoi. The original bridge--one of the longest in North Vietnam--was destroyed by US air strikes in late April.

Hanoi had been concerned that this bridge on the main road and rail route from China would eventually be bombed. As a result, considerable progress had been made on the approaches and piers for the replacement bridge before the late April strike. The bridge decking was moved into place only 20 days after the strike. Presumably it had been assembled and hidden nearby ready for instant replacement.

Hanoi has another alternate bridge under construction down river from the newly-completed replacement bridge.

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Hong Kong - Communist China: British authorities believe that Communist-led labor unions are preparing a major confrontation with the colonial government today or tomorrow.

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Although sporadic strikes have taken place over the past week, British authorities are taking stringent measures to curb the unrest. Government employees are subject to summary dismissal if they participate in an unauthorized work stoppage exceeding 24 hours. On 1 June, the government outlawed inflammatory Communist wall posters and imposed a maximum fine of \$875 and two years in prison on any violator.

Peking is continuing its propaganda attacks on the British, but at a greatly reduced level. A People's Daily article yesterday provided further indication that Peking expects no early resolution to the struggle.

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Nigeria: The federal response to Eastern secession so far still focuses on half-way measures which have had little impact on Eastern determination.

Federal government chief Gowon continues to issue decrees in support of his program to divide Nigeria into 12 states, which triggered Eastern Governor Ojukwu's secession move. These will have no practical effect in the East, however.

Lagos is stepping up its efforts to encourage resistance to Ojukwu's regime by minority tribes in the area of the East most readily accessible to present concentrations of federal troops. There still is no hard evidence that a federal military attack is imminent.

For his part, Ojukwu seems relaxed and confident despite the continuing lack of any foreign recognition. He has announced the creation of five new ministries, including foreign affairs and defense.

Ojukwu has reluctantly agreed to permit the planned evacuation of US and other dependents from the East. London has now authorized the evacuation of British nationals from the critical East-North border area, but still hopes to avoid a more general evacuation which would jeopardize local British interests. Britain wants to maintain some sort of official representation in the East and, if necessary, probably will allow Ojukwu to open an office in London in return.

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Venezuela-OAS-Cuba: Venezuela is dismayed by the lack of support for its condemnation of Cuban intervention.

According to a foreign office official, President Leoni has become impatient over the matter and believes that something concrete must be done soon. The frustration of some political leaders is being manifested in public criticism of the US. These leaders believe that Venezuela is going it alone and allege that the US lacks determination in facing up to the Castro problem. Government officials have expressed their satisfaction with the US position, however.

The council of the Organization of American States meets on 5 June to consider Venezuela's request for a Foreign Ministers' meeting on Cuba. There seems to be little likelihood of the OAS going significantly beyond its 1964 resolution, which virtually isolated Cuba from its neighbors in the Western Hemisphere. 25X1

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